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PART I—Section 3

Notifications relating to Non-Statutory Rules, Regulations, Orders and Resolutions issued by the Ministry of Defence

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

RESOLUTION

New Delhi, the 24th December 1955

No. 1559-A.—In their Resolution No. 7/E, dated the 14th November 1953, the Government of India appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. H. N. Kunzru, Member of the Rajya Sabha, to advise Government on matters relating to the rejection of officer cadets during their training at the National Defence Academy (including the Military College) and in the corresponding institutions of the Navy and the Air Force. The Committee visited the training institutions of the three Services, and examined the training syllabi, the facilities available for training and the methods adopted for the assessment of the performance of cadets. The Committee also observed the methods of selection employed by Services Selection Boards. After examining senior officers of the three Services, representatives of the UPSC, cadets under training, and a few ex-cadets, the Committee submitted its Report to the Government on the 30th April 1955.

2. The Committee is satisfied that the methods of assessment of cadets during their training are sound, fair and reasonable in all the three Services and that adequate facilities are available to cadets for removing their shortcomings and developing their latent qualities. The Committee found the rate of rejection of cadets quite low in the Army and the Navy, but somewhat higher in the Air Force.

3. To reduce the wastage of cadets in the Air Force, the Committee has recommended that candidates for the Air Force should be required to qualify in the Pilot Aptitude Tests before they are tested for officer-like qualities by the Services Selection Boards. The Committee has further suggested that the Air Wing of N.C.C. should be developed in order to increase the interest in the Air Force.

4. The Committee has also found a wide disparity in the rejection rates between cadets who undergo the National Cadet Corps Course at the Military College, Dehra Dun, for 12 months, and those who undergo the Direct-entry course in the same institution for two years. To eliminate this disparity, the Committee has recommended—

- (i) that the period of training of NCC course should be increased from 12 to 18 months;

- (ii) that the intake of cadets for the NCC course should be bi-annual; and

- (iii) that the upper age limit for entry to the NCC course should be lowered from 23 to 22 years.

5. The Committee is of the view that the present system of selection under which equal importance is given to both the U.P.S.C. written examination and the S.S.B. tests gives a fair chance of assessment of both intellectual calibre and the office-like qualities of the candidates and should be continued. In addition, the Committee has recommended that 200 marks be allotted for quantitative assessment of physical efficiency and stamina of candidates and that each candidate should obtain a minimum qualifying mark in it as in the Union Public Service Commission examination and Services Selection Board Tests.

6. The Committee has stressed the need for maintaining adequate liaison between Services Selection Boards and the officer training Institutions by interchange of visits.

7. All the above recommendations have been accepted.

8. While reviewing the medium of instruction at the training institutions, the Committee has suggested that in this matter the Armed Forces should follow the general policy decided upon by the Government from time to time.

9. The Committee has also made certain observations and suggestions on points of detail noticed during the course of its visits to the Training Establishments like accommodation, increase in staff, provision of training equipment, popularisation of gliding, catering arrangements, etc. These have been noted and are being implemented to the extent possible.

10. The Government wish to place on record their appreciation of the very valuable and careful survey made by the Chairman and Members of the Committee on this important subject, despite the demands of other pressing public and official duties.

Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be communicated to all concerned.

Ordered also that it be published in the Gazette of India.

M. K. VELLODI, Secy.

